

The Prickly Press

Newsletter of The Kansas City Cactus & Succulent Society

kccactus.com

April 2022

\$100
prize

YOUR KCCSS
Logo
HERE
Contest!

See details on page 2.

Our April Meeting!

Sunday, April 10, 1:30 p.m., The Trailside Center (99th & Holmes)

EDIBLE SUCCULENTS

by Rence Becka

“Can I bring my cactus and succulents to the KCCSS picnic?”

I offered to host the Club’s picnic for our April program and decided it’s too early for our picnic and short notice for everyone. We should celebrate together after the Mid-States Conference. Then I started thinking about how many edible succulents are really out there. I didn’t know. After a bit of computer searching, I was pleasantly surprised and amazed. At the meeting Sunday, I’ll share what I discovered about succulents that are edible and a few that are used medicinally.

We will also be talking about all the latest developments in the Mid-States Conference planning.

AND there will be cuttings of winter-hardy plants, taken from our Loose Park garden, available for club members and guests to buy, using cash, check, or credit card.



The CSSA is holding its first ever national PHOTO CONTEST!

There are cash prizes!

For details on how you can enter, see page 5 of this newsletter.

KCCSS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2022

Sunday, April 10 — 1:30 p.m. Program: “Edible Succulents”; Business Meeting

Sunday, May 15 — 1:30 p.m.; Program and Business Meeting

June 9-12

Mid-States Cactus and Succulent Conference

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, Independence, MO

Sunday, July 17

Sunday, August 21

Sunday, September 18

Sunday, October 16

Sunday, November 20

Sunday, December 11 — Holiday Party

All meetings are currently scheduled to take place at The Trailside Center, 99th and Holmes, KCMO.

President's Message

I hope everybody has had a chance to get out and enjoy the almost-springlike weather. I'm not sure what happened to my daffodils this year, but they only produced a couple of pathetic-looking blooms. The rest of them apparently got their little heads frozen off. My star magnolia tree didn't bloom either, although other magnolia trees around here seem to be performing as usual. I'm trying not to take it personally. At least my indoor plants — mostly succulents — have been doing well.

We had a good meeting in March, with the best attendance since we started meeting again in person. Many thanks to Linda for a fascinating presentation on succulent begonias, and to Renee for an update on the Mid-States Conference. I think that with these two ladies sharing the VP job, we can look forward to some great programs as the year goes forward.

After some discussion last month, we decided basically to abandon the hardy garden at Loose Park. Mike Hisey has scheduled a work day on Saturday, April 9, to dig up some things and take cuttings. There are more details in the note at the end of the treasurer's report (righthand side of this page). The plants taken from the garden will be available for members to buy at the meeting Sunday.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Mike for all he's done to take care of the hardy garden in the past, and also special thanks to Dave Potts, who was basically the only member who has spent time pulling weeds in the garden since the pandemic began. In addition, I want to recognize Barb Roy, who has taken over the job of getting people signed up to bring refreshments (and reminding them that they signed up!). And many thanks to Shirley Grubbs and to Collins Sexton for volunteering to set up the Plant of the Month display going forward.

See you all on Sunday!

New Logo Contest — Last Call for Entries!

KC Cactus & Succulent Society needs a new logo! Extended deadline!

For some time now KCCSS has been logo-less. We are inviting ALL our members to consider creating our new logo. The Logo Committee will choose a winner- who will walk away with a cool **\$100** and the bragging rights as the designer. Here's what you need to know:

- Name of the Club: **Kansas City Cactus & Succulent Society**
- Logo should be clean, simple, and easily reproducible.
- Design preferred to be electronic, although an excellent quality, reproducible drawing will be accepted.
- More than one logo idea may be submitted by one individual.
- **Final entries must be received by MAY 1, 2022.** Send to: evaal@att.net or Eva Allen, 417 E. 73rd Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64131
- All rights to the logo will be property of KCCSS.
- Winning design will be announced, and prize awarded at the Mid-States Conference in June.

Leave your legacy for the club- create the logo. GOOD LUCK!
Best, Linda

Treasurer's Report for March

Beginning Balance \$6,440.23
Income: \$799.16
Memberships - \$267.00
Conference Vendors' Fees - \$250.00
Conference Registration (Square) - \$282.16
Expenses: \$734.35
Trailside Center - \$50.00
Go Daddy - \$641.39
Conference Auction Supplies - \$42.96
Ending Balance: \$6,505.04

Reminder to All: Saturday, April 9th (day before next meeting). *We need volunteers to take cuttings and dig up plants from our Loose Park Hardy Bed. This should not be as difficult as weeding nor take as long. If interested email me at cmhisey@centurylink.net or call me at 816-797-0458, leave a message. Bring gloves, small garden trowel, knife, and bacon tongs.*

Thanks,
Mike Hisey
Treasurer, KCCSS



Image from gardeningknowhow.com

The Kansas City Cactus & Succulent Society, Inc. was established in 1976. It is incorporated as a Non-Profit Organization in Missouri. The Society is affiliated with The Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc. Meetings are generally held at 1:30 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of each month at the Trailside Center, 99th & Holmes. Dues are \$20 for a single membership and \$25 for a household. **OFFICERS: President** — Eva Allen, 816-444-9321, evaal@att.net; **Co-Vice Presidents** — Linda Tamblin, 913-231-1020, plums15@gmail.com and Renee Becka, 816-868-7794, reneetheharper@gmail.com; **Secretary** — Michele Bartlett, 816-213-0453, fbart80209@aol.com; **Treasurer** — Mike Hisey, 816-797-0458, cmhisey@centurylink.net; **Newsletter Editor** — Eva Allen; **Website Administrator** — Linda Tamblin; **CSSA Affiliate Representative** — Mark Raduziner, 913-742-0670, cactimark@gmail.com

Meeting Notes, March 20, 2022

Twelve people were in attendance, including 2 visitors who became members: Bentley Nielsen and Kathryn Slee. President Eva Allen called the meeting to order. No corrections were made to the notes from the meeting in February 2022. A sign-up sheet for future meeting snacks was passed around to the members.

The first order of business was the election of officers. Judy Pigue made a motion to allow Eva Allen to remain on as President, and Mike Hisey to remain on as Treasurer, thus exceeding the term limits set forth in the by-laws. Mark Raduziner seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously by the members.

Mark then moved that we accept the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee: President - Eva Allen; Co-Vice-Presidents - Linda Tamblyn and Renee Becka; Secretary - Michele Bartlett; and Treasurer, Mike Hisey. Linda Tamblyn seconded, and the motion passed.

Mike Hisey presented the Treasurer's Report, which was approved. He then reported on the club's need for a credit card. After some discussion, Linda moved that we apply for a card, Mark seconded, and the motion carried.

Linda, our website administrator, reported on the status of the club's current GoDaddy site, which needs to be updated by April 14, 2022. The cost of the "business plan" option for the updated platform on GoDaddy is \$29.99 per month and will require Linda to build the new website from the ground up. Mark moved that we upgrade our GoDaddy platform to the next level for the price of \$14.99 per month. The motion was seconded by Shirley Grubbs, and the motion passed unanimously.

In further discussion of the website, Eva requested that more people besides Judy, Mark, and herself be available to receive and answer messages sent to the club through the Contact Us function. The following people volunteered to be added: Renee Becka, Linda Tamblyn, and Shirley Grubbs.

Linda Tamblyn led a discussion regarding the creation of a "Calling Committee" in order to contact members who were actively involved with the club prior to the Covid shut-down. She will prepare a report regarding this new committee, the purpose of which is to reach out to inactive members. It was determined that the calls and/or emails must be made by the end of April or first part of May. Mike Hisey asked that we also remind them of when club membership dues are due. After the calls are made, we can then further update the club membership roster.

A discussion was held regarding the cactus garden in Loose Park. Previously, KC Parks and Recreation allowed the club to meet free-of-charge at the Garden Center 9 times a year in exchange for our doing 50 hours of maintenance work on the cactus garden. Because it now appears we will not be meeting at Loose Park in the foreseeable future, we reached a decision to discontinue the upkeep of the cactus garden. Saturday, April 9, was chosen as a work day to take cuttings from some of the plants and make them available to members, or else donate them for the auction at our upcoming conference.

Eva advised that the April meeting had been scheduled on the second Sunday (April 10) to avoid a conflict on the third Sunday with Easter.

Eva asked for a volunteer to assume the responsibility for setting up the Plant of the Month competition. Collins Sexton and Shirley Grubbs agreed to share the job.

No other business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Michele Bartlett, Secretary

WHAT MAKES A CACTUS A CACTUS?



All plants in the botanical family Cactaceae possess a structure found in no other family: the areole. These are compressed shoots formed from axillary buds—a whorl of modified leaves (spines.)

Look at this areole of a Golden barrel (*Echinocactus grusonii*). The areole sometimes looks woolly or felted. These "hairs" are trichomes and are always present, though sometimes not very conspicuous. The spines are produced from the areole. Even in spineless forms of cacti the areole is there, but you might need a magnifying glass to see it. *Sue*

By Sue Haffner, *Cactus Corner News*, April 2022
Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society

PLANT OF THE MONTH COMPETITION FOR APRIL

Cactus - Notocactus, Copiapoa, Variegated, Favorite

Other Succulent - Gasteria, Hoya, Variegated, Favorite

Participants may enter 1 plant in any size pot per class, for a maximum of 8 entries per person. Each plant entered will earn 5 points. Extra points are awarded according to placement in the class (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc., to be voted on by members). Any plant in bloom will receive 2 bonus points. Points earned in 2021 will be carried over to this year. In May, the three persons with the most points will be awarded coupons for a discount at the Mid-States Conference sale.

March Plant of the Month Results

CACTUS

Mammillaria

1st: Mammillaria saboae (blooming) — Collins Sexton, 11 pts

Echinopsis

1st: Echinopsis subdenudata — Collins Sexton, 9 pts

Monstrose/Crest

1st: Cereus monstrose (grafted) — Judy Pigue, 9 pts

2nd: Mammillaria spinosissima crest — Collins Sexton, 8 pts

Favorite Cactus

1st: Mammillaria schwarzii (blooming) — Collins Sexton, 11 pts

2nd: Trichocereus thelegonus cristata — Judy Pigue, 8 pts

SUCCULENT

Euphorbia

1st: Euphorbia francoisii (blooming) — Eva Allen, 11 pts

2nd: Euphorbia symmetrica — Collins Sexton, 8 pts

Crassula

1st: Crassula arborescens — Eva Allen, 9 pts

Favorite Succulent

1st: Agave isthmensis — Judy Pigue, 9 pts

2nd: Euphorbia horrida (blooming) — Collins Sexton, 10 pts

3rd (tie): Fockea edulis — Eva Allen, 7 pts

3rd (tie): Fouquieria columnaris (Boojum Tree) — Judy Pigue, 7 pts



Copiapoa cinerea var. *albispina*
photo by Raimondo Paladini, lifle.com



Gasteria 'Green Dragon' hybrid,
Mountain Crest Gardens



Gymnocalicium
anisitii variegata,
ebay.com

Greetings CSSA Affiliate Organizations,

It is time to get out your cell phones, cameras or other photography devices. The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) is holding its first ever national photo contest. All CSSA members are eligible to participate.

Photo credit Irwin Lightstone

CSSA Photo Contest

To celebrate and contemplate the plants we love, the CSSA is holding a photo contest open to



CSSA members and the minor children of CSSA members. For the theme of “**The Artistry of Cacti and Succulents**,” you are invited to enter up to three images.

There are two divisions; adult (16 years and older), and youth (younger than 16 years). Prizes will be awarded in each of the divisions.

☐ First Place: \$100.00 Gift Certificate from B&H Photo - Video, publication of the image in ‘To the Point’, and an 8 x 10 inch (approximate) print of the image.

☐ Second Place: \$25.00 credit toward purchase at the CSSA Seed Depot, publication of the image in ‘To the Point’, and an 8 x 10 inch (approximate) print of the image.

☐ Third Place: Publication of the image in ‘To the Point’, and an 8 x 10 inch (approximate) print of the image.

☐ Honorable Mention: Publication of the image in ‘To the Point’.

Deadline for entries is midnight PST, May 1, 2022. As there are no entry fees, you have nothing to lose! For more information about entry and the specific contest rules please visit the CSSA website home page. http://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/photo_contest.html

JUST A REMINDER: For KCCSS members only, we are now offering the option of paying for conference registration via credit card. If you would like to make your payment in this way, call Sandy Heimann, whose number is at the bottom of the registration form. You will need to give her the card number, expiration date, and CVV number. Alternatively, you can write this information on the form before you mail it. Or if you want to register using a credit card at the meeting April 10, you can do so then because Renee will be bringing the card reader.



2022 Mid-States Conference Registration June 9-12, 2022

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center
18011 Bass Pro Drive, Independence, MO 64055

Group room rate of \$105 ends May 16, 2022. Make reservations at: www.stoneycreekhotele.com or call 816-908.9600. Use code **2006KANSAS** for \$105 rate.

Hosted by the Kansas City Cactus and Succulent Society

Payment by check only. Use additional forms for more than two registrants.

Name: _____

Name on Badge (if different): _____

Banquet Choices (if applicable, * choose ONE): Beef ___ Chicken ___ Vegetarian ___

Dietary restrictions: _____

Second Name: _____

Name on Badge (if different): _____

Banquet Choices (if applicable, * choose ONE): Beef ___ Chicken ___ Vegetarian ___

Dietary restrictions: _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____

Zip Code _____ **Phone:** _____

E-mail (Include if you want confirmation of receipt. Legible, please!) _____

Society Affiliation: _____

*Full conference registration includes the following activities:

Thursday: Welcome party, early entry to sales area

Friday: Conference sessions (morning and afternoon), plant sales

Saturday: Conference sessions (morning), banquet, rare plant auction

Sunday: Conference sessions (morning only)

Check Registration Selection(s) (Partial fees not affected by date)	Quantity	Fee	Subtotals
Full Registration (Postmarked before or on May 16, 2022)	_____	\$125	_____
Full Registration (Postmarked after May 16, 2022)	_____	\$150	_____
Friday Sessions only	_____	\$50	_____
Saturday Sessions only	_____	\$50	_____
Sunday Sessions only	_____	\$30	_____
Banquet only* (mark meal choice & dietary restrictions above)	_____	\$35	_____

T-shirts will be available for pick up at the registration table June 9-11.

Crew Neck (Men) <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2X <input type="checkbox"/> 3X	_____	\$20 ea	_____
V Neck (Women) <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2X <input type="checkbox"/> 3X	_____	\$20 ea	_____

Cancellation Policy: \$25 fee deducted on cancellations made by May 25, 2022
No refunds after May 25, 2022.

Total Due

Make checks payable to: KC Cactus & Succulent Society

Return completed form and payment by postal mail to:

Sandy Heimann
13104 E. 264th Street
Peculiar, MO 64078-8424

Questions: 816-779-6407